

### Can Muslims Vote in Elections of the Modern Secular State?

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What is the legitimacy of the modern secular state when judged according to the religion of Islam? Is it

A US-based Egyptian Islamic scholar declared in a widely circulated Fatwa (legal opinion) that it is Wajib

On the other hand the outstanding Pakistani Islamic scholar, Dr. Israr Ahmad, has categorically declared

Our view is that the opinion of the US-based Egyptian Islamic Scholar is false and that he is dangerously

In my own native land, Trinidad and Tobago, the system of electoral politics has consistently polarized the

In time the PNM's 'black' nationalism produced its corollary in the form of 'Indian' nationalism. When Ind

Many Trinidadian Muslims are probably going to be surprised by this essay since it would appear that si

But Trinidadian Muslims should pause to consider that there are so many other strange things that also  
"Say! Verily my prayer, and my service of sacrifice, and my very living, and my very dying, are all for Allah  
(Qur'an, al-An'am, 6:162)

Indeed, in pledging his life to the state, or his native land, or a mango tree, rather than to Allah, Most High

Again, the Inter-Religious Organization of Trinidad and Tobago, which includes Muslims, has adopted a

This essay commences with a description of the world order today, including an introduction to the modern state.

Muslims are reminded that Islam gave to the world a conception of political organization and of state in which

We admit that there are obvious merits of the secular state and we go on to examine, from an Islamic perspective,

## **THE WORLD-ORDER TODAY**

An essentially godless medieval Europe, which had conveniently cloaked itself in the garb of Christianity,

The result of this attack is that large numbers of Muslims have essentially left Islam and have become part of

In the midst of all of this Europe succeeded in first 'liberating' the Holy Land of Muslim rule and then in 'reconquering'

How should Muslims respond to this drama that is still unfolding? How should Muslims extricate themselves from

It is not possible at this time for Muslims to take such control over territory anywhere in the world in order to do so. "Abu Hurairah reported that the Prophet said: Black banners shall emerge from Khorasan and no force will

The world may not have to wait for long before that event takes place.

How should Muslims respond to the relentlessly increasing attacks on Islam and on Muslim society in the West?

It is strange that in a world that still comprises many great non-European civilizations, some of which are

Arnold Toynbee, the well-known British historian, has responded to this unique phenomenon with the view that “Western civilization is aiming at nothing less than the incorporation of all of mankind in a single great society.”

The ultimate European goal, however, was to make possible the return of the Jews to the Holy Land and the restoration of the Temple.

The Qur'an (al-Anbiyah, 21:96) has very plainly declared that when Y'ajuj (Gog) and M'ajuj (Magog) were to appear in Europe:

“I have brought forth from among My servants such people (i.e. Gog and Magog) against whom none will be able to stand up.”

It is clear from the above that modern European civilization is the civilization of Gog and Magog. And so it is.

My book, 'Jerusalem in the Qur'an', also explains the phenomenon of Dajjal, the False Messiah. He comes in the last days.

The reader should understand that the modern secular state formed an essential part of the overall political system.

## **THE MYSTERY OF THE MODERN SECULAR STATE**

The modern secular state emerged in consequence of the application of secularism to political philosophy. The following points illustrate the main features of the modern secular state:

- A scientific and technological revolution delivered unprecedented power to Europe. That power was the source of the new masters of the world;
- Power was used to oppress all those who resisted the new masters of the world;
- Religion bereft of its internal spiritual substance suffered constant decline until society became essentially godless;
- The godless way of life caused a collapse of morals to such an extent that society descended into a state of lawlessness and disorder;
- Greed and lust provoked society to self-destruction;
- Deception was used to steal mankind's wealth and resources;
- Globalisation is taking the whole world into the grip of Israel's new messianic dictatorship. This was one of the main aims of the European revolution.

The godlessness of modern European civilization was plainly apparent in its choice of 'materialism' to replace religion.

The godless European revolution was an even more mysterious phenomenon since it was accompanied by a religious revival.

The new Europe directed a sustained attack on mankind by appealing to base instincts of greed and lust.

When she died, her Jewish ‘partner’ in life was introduced to the world as her ‘companion’. Homosexual

A consumer revolution gave to mankind an insatiable appetite for acquiring more and more of the new c

The new godless Europe proceeded to use ‘power’ to conquer the rest of the world and to colonize it, an

## MERITS OF THE MODERN SECULAR STATE

The secular state could not have won acceptance amongst Euro-Christian and Euro-Jewish people, or a

It also skillfully bribed its way into the bellies and the hearts of mankind through its inventive creativity. It

But these obvious merits of the secular state, some of which also existed in the city-state of Madina estab

The democracy of the modern secular state turned out to be a sugar-coated pill of poison. The ‘political’

The new Europe proceeded to use its invincible military power and awesome powers of deception to dom

Western colonial rule was now imposed upon the rest of mankind, including the Muslims, and through th

The result was that the world of Jews, Christians and Muslims entered into a collective trial of all trials (final). “*Follow what has been sent down unto you by your Lord-God, and follow no Master other than Him. How*” (Qur'an, al-'Araf, 7:3)

The new modern secular state devised a system of electoral politics for constituting Parliament, Government, etc.

There is nothing in the revealed scriptures (Torah, Gospel, Qur'an) or the Sunnah (example or way of life) that supports this.

*"... nor does He share His Command (i.e., His Sovereignty, Supreme Authority, Governance, Rule, etc.) with anyone." (Qur'an, al-Kahf, 18:26)*

*"Praise be to Allah (Who) has no partner in His Sovereignty ... "*  
(Qur'an, Banu Israil, 17:111; al-Furqan, 25:2)

The Qur'an also warns those who help in an evil deed that they will share in its burden:

*"Whoever recommends and helps a good cause becomes a partner therein: and whoever recommends and helps an evil cause becomes a partner therein."*  
(Qur'an, al-Nisa, 4:85)

## **SHIRK AND KUFR IN THE MODERN SECULAR STATE**

Euro-Christian and Euro-Jewish civilization used to be based on faith in God and in His Sovereignty and Justice.

The Prophet (sallalahu 'alaihi wa sallam) prophesied that Muslims would betray Islam by imitating and following the ways of the disbelievers.

*"Narrated Abu Said al-Khudri: The Prophet said, You will follow the ways of those nations who were before you."*

Then he warned that when Muslims would imitate the Jews and Christians (i.e., the Jewish-Christian alliance),

*"Narrated Abdullah ibn Amr, Allah's Messenger said: There will befall my Ummah exactly (all those evils) which befell the people of Pharaoh."*  
(Sunan, Tirmidhi)

Muslims who pledge allegiance to the modern secular state, or vote in the elections of that state, cannot be excused from the punishment of Shirk.

*"Surely Allah does not (or will not) forgive Shirk. But He (can) forgive everything else to whomsoever He wills."*  
(Qur'an, al-Nisa, 4:48)

Whoever commits Shirk, and dies in that state, can never enter into heaven:

*“... Allah has made it Haram for whoever commits Shirk to ever enter into heaven. Such (people) will dw*

(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:72)

The worship of idols is the most overt form of Shirk. This form of Shirk has largely disappeared from the

*“You will find Jews and those who commit Shirk to have the greatest hatred and enmity (time and again,*

(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:82)

But there are other forms of Shirk that are also described in the Qur'an. Pharaoh, for example, declared

The Qur'an has repeatedly admonished those who, like Pharaoh, establish Hukum, i.e., government, law

*“... And whoever fails to govern (judge, etc.) on the basis of that which Allah revealed has committed K*

*“... And whoever fails to govern (judge, etc.) on the basis of that which Allah revealed has committed L*

*“... And whoever fails to govern (judge, etc.) on the basis of that which Allah has revealed, has committed M*

(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:44 - 47)

Since the declaration by Pharaoh and its concrete application in the land of Egypt were acts of Shirk, it f

If a Jew, Christian, or Muslim, were to cast a vote in a national election in a modern secular state, that w

*“They took their Priests and Rabbis as Lord-Gods beside Allah; and (they did this in respect of) the Mess*

(Qur'an, al-Taubah, 9:31)

When this verse of the Qur'an was revealed a man came to the Prophet (sallalahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and

When the Jews acted in this way, David ('alaihi al-Salam) and Jesus ('alaihi al-Salam) cursed them:

*“Curses were pronounced on those among Banu Israil who rejected Faith, by the tongue of David and o*

(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:78-9)

Whoever dies with a curse of a Prophet upon them have no chance whatsoever of ever escaping from th

*“The Hypocrites, men and women, (have an understanding) with each other: they enjoin evil, and forbid*

(Qur'an, al-Taubah, 9:67)

If it was an act of Shirk when priests and rabbis made Halal that which Allah declared to be Haram, then

The usual method of approach for studying this subject is to weigh the 'pros' and 'cons' of participation b

Our response is to point out that participation in electoral politics in a secular state, ipso facto, signifies a

Secondly, when believers vote in elections in a secular state they have to vote for a political party. If that

Around the world today governments and parliaments of secular states have already declared Halal near

Thirdly, this method constitutes a violation and an abandonment of the Sunnah of the blessed Prophet o

Political parties and governments around the world today are comprised of those who disdainfully persis

"... and then, when the ~~Whidatim~~ ~~hypocrisy~~ is ~~that~~ ~~they~~ ~~go~~ ~~out~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~lives~~ ~~of~~ ~~keepers~~ ~~of~~ ~~slaves~~ ~~and~~ ~~of~~ ~~exercis~~

The modern secular state legalized the lending of money on interest (Riba). Around the world today an e

Around the world today most modern secular states no longer recognize Allah's law that a son must inh

This writer warns that the sun has never risen on a stranger world than the modern, godless, and glamo

The defining characteristic of the religion of Abraham ('alaihi al-Salam) is that there is no place whatsoever

How then do we explain the acceptance by Muslims around the world of the modern secular state, such

## THE CALIPHATE AND THE MODERN SECULAR STATE

The Islamic Caliphate was a conception of a state and political system that recognized Allah's Sovereignty  
*"Oh you who believe, obey Allah, and obey the Messenger, and (obey) those from amongst yourselves"*  
(Qur'an, al-Nisa, 4:59)

Islam refused to recognize "divided loyalty", yet, and he could do so if he wanted to, he could do so if he wanted to.  
(Qur'an, al-An'am, 6:162)

Europe destroyed that Islamic model of a state and political system when the Ottoman Caliphate was ta

There are a number of reasons that explain why Europe targeted and destroyed the Islamic Caliphate. T

Prophet Muhammad (sallalahu 'alaihi wa sallam) prophesied that the Caliphate would disappear. He did  
"How will you be at that time when the son of Mary descends amongst you and your Imam (i.e., Amirul M  
(Sahih, Bukhari)

This Hadith revealed three things:

Firstly, it informed us that the Caliphate would be present in the world in the 'End Time'. This amounted

And since we know that when Jesus ('alaihi al-Salam) returns he will rule the world from Jerusalem as a

Those who adamantly defend the status quo of secular Islamic nation-states should pause to reflect over

## **QUR'ANIC EXPLANATION FOR THE UNIVERSAL SHIRK OF THE MODERN SECULAR STATE**

Only the Qur'an can explain, and has explained, the momentous political change that overtook the Euro

## **ALTERNATIVE TO ELECTORAL POLITICS OF THE MODERN SECULAR STATE**

The Jewish, Christian or Muslim reader is likely to ask: Is there an alternative (for believers) to electoral

The alternative for believers is to uphold whatever Allah made Halal as Halal, and whatever Allah made “. . . So separate us from this sinful rebellious people!”  
(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:28)

The Qur'an refers to this mission of believers as "amr bil ma'aruf" (enjoining the right) and "nahi 'an al-m

Mankind has the freedom of choice to accept, obey and fulfil the obligation of Alms giving (al-Anفال) as per the command of Allah Almighty (Qur'an, al-Nisa, 4:59).

When they no longer have the freedom to establish their own government anywhere, and they have to live

While such a government will not be ‘their’ government, they can advise and assist the government in all

It is in the very nature of the modern secular state that it would never allow elections to be used to trans

The Prophet (sallalahu 'alaihi wa sallam) declared that the world of Kufr constituted an essential unity (a

Thus, rather than voting in elections and legitimizing the secular model of a state based on Shirk, Muslim

There is only one road through which Muslims can preserve their faith in the world today and that road is

The Qur'an itself directs the Muslim to disconnect from the godless world:

*" . . . So separate us from this sinful rebellious people!"*

(Qur'an, al-Maidah, 5:28)

The method through which Muslims in Trinidad and Tobago can effectively disconnect themselves from

## **THE MUSLIM VILLAGE**

Muslims must concentrate on establishing micro-Islamic communities wherever they can. But let me at c

If an authentic Muslim Village is to be established, and if it is to provide Muslims with the means of preser

- The public life of the Muslim Village must be established on the firm foundations of the Qur'an and Sunnah.
- The Muslim Village must be self-sufficient in food production and in energy. Surah al-Kahf of the Qur'a
- The Muslim Village would also have to establish a micro-market which would be independent from the

One of the most important characteristics of the micro-market of the Muslim Village is that it would ensur

- The Muslim Village would have to make a determined effort to pursue al-Ihsan (or Tasawwuf) in order

- The Muslim Village cannot be, and must not be, a stepping-stone for the eventual control over the state
- The entire guidance which emerges from the Qur'an and Sunnah and which must be applied to the tasks

Before this essay ends there is a warning that must be entered into the record. It is this. The secular stat

## **CONCLUSION**

This writer has based his arguments on the Qur'an, the Hadith and the Sunnah of the blessed Prophet M

The blessed Prophet (sallalahu 'alaihi wa sallam) declared: What is Halal (permissible) is clear! And what is Haraam (Sahih, Bukhari)